

Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish, From 'Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest'

WALDSTEINIA IDAHOENSIS IDAHO BARREN STRAWBERRY

Idaho Barren Strawberry is a strongly rhizomatous, sparsely hirsute perennial with flowering stems 15-40 cm tall. The leaves are basal, and the stipules are membranous and forming a broad base to the slender, 5-12 cm leaf stalks. The blades are heart shaped to nearly circular, shallowly 3- to 5-lobed, coarsely toothed, and 3-5 cm broad. 2-7 flowers are borne in open infloresences on stalks with 1 or 2 simple to 3 lobed bracts and with sparsely glandular pubescence above. The petals are cream or yellowish, nearly circular, and 4-5 mm long. There are ca. 70 stamens and 4-7 pistils; stamen filaments persist in fruit. The calyx is free of the ovaries but encloses them. The ovaries and achenes have a fine, pale pubescence and the style is minutely pubescent near the base. Flowering in June.

Distinguished from other genera in the Rose Family by the calyx free of the ovaries but enclosing them. It resembles species in the Saxifrage Family, from which it differs by the presence of leaf stipules, stamens more than 10, and pistils more than 1.